

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: S. Eder et al. CONF. NO.: 4908
U.S. SERIAL NO.: 10/618,378 EXAMINER: T. Bocure
FILED: July 11, 2003 GROUP: 2611
FOR: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR THE CLOCKED OUTPUT OF
ASYNCHRONOUSLY RECEIVED DIGITAL SIGNALS

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Applicants are in receipt of the Office Action dated April 6, 2007 of the above-referenced application. Applicants respond to the Office Action as follows.

Claims 1-6, 8-13, and 15 are pending in the application.

Independent claims 1, 13, and 15 recite a method, device, and system, respectively, for the uniform output of asynchronously transmitted digital values in which a transmission device and a receiver are located at the same end of a transmission path (see, e.g., independent claim 1, which recites a step of "transmitting the digital values to the transmission path by a transmission device of the receiver").

As such, it is possible to carry out the step of adjusting the output clock of the receiver and transmission device located at the same end so as to correspond to the rate at which digital values are received in the receiver, without requiring a return path for transmitting data rate information. According to the Applicants' claimed invention, the rate at which the digital values are received in the receiver is used as a basis for adjusting the output and transmission clocks.

Claims 1-6, 8-13, and 15 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,829,244 to Wildfeuer et al. ("Wildfeuer") in view of U.S. Patent 5,541,955 to Jacobsmeyer. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The proposed combination of Wildfeuer in view of Jacobsmeyer does not teach or suggest a method, device, and system for the uniform output of asynchronously transmitted digital values in which a transmission device and a receiver are located at the same end of a transmission path, and a transmission clock of the transmission device is adjusted to correspond to an output clock of the receiver.

On page 3 of the Office Action of 04/06/2007, it was admitted that Wildfeuer does not teach or suggest adjusting a transmission clock of the transmission device to correspond to an output clock of the receiver. The Jacobsmeyer reference was cited allegedly to remedy the deficiencies of Wildfeuer.

Referring to FIG. 1 of Jacobsmeyer, a forward channel receiver 66 is located at one end of a transmission path, and a data rate information K is transmitted to the other end of the transmission path via a return channel 80. As shown in FIG. 1, at the other end of the transmission path, the data rate information is supplied to an adaptive data transfer circuit 56 and an encoder 58. *See, e.g., column 11, line 45 to column 12, line 19 of Jacobsmeyer.*

In Jacobsmeyer, there is no teaching or suggestion of adjusting the data rate of a transmission device located at the same end of a transmission path as a corresponding receiver. Moreover, Jacobsmeyer does not teach or suggest that the data rate is adjusted by adjusting a transmission clock.

Instead, Jacobsmeyer discloses that the data rate is adjusted by "maintaining a constant symbol rate and varying the number of bits per channel symbol" (see column 11, lines 47-51).

One of ordinary skill in the art would understand that maintaining a constant symbol rate requires that the transmission clock is held constant.

Therefore, the Jacobsmeyer reference does not teach or suggest a transmission clock of the transmission device is adjusted to correspond to an output clock of the receiver, where the transmission device and receiver are located at the same end of a transmission path.

For at least the reasons discussed above, even if Jacobsmeyer was somehow combined with Wildfeuer, the proposed combination would not teach or suggest the Applicants' claimed invention. Therefore, independent claims 1, 13, and 15 and their respective dependent claims are patentable over the proposed combination.

It is believed the application is in condition for immediate allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

/Steven M. Jensen/

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